



# **Iowa Crop Progress & Condition**



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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending May 9, 2021 Issued May 10, 2021

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Much needed precipitation across much of Iowa was beneficial to crop progress during the week ending May 9, 2021 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Statewide there were 5.1 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week due to precipitation. Other field activities such as spraying and applying anhydrous and dry fertilizer were slowed by sporadic rains.

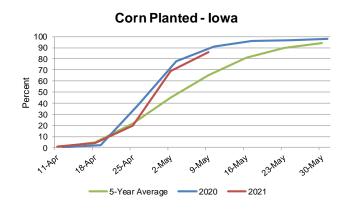
**Topsoil moisture** levels rated 10% very short, 27% short, 61% adequate and 2% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 13% very short, 39% short, 46% adequate and 2% surplus.

Statewide, 86% of the expected **corn** crop has been planted, 10 days ahead of the 5-year average. North central and central Iowa farmers have less than 10% of their expected corn crop remaining to be planted. Corn emergence improved to 22% complete, an increase of 20 percentage points from the previous week. Just over two-thirds of the expected **soybean** crop has been planted, 15 days ahead of the five-year average. Six percent of the expected soybean crop has emerged, 5 days ahead of normal. Seeding of Iowa's expected **oat** crop is nearly complete with 74% emerged, 4 days ahead of average. Iowa's first oat crop condition rating of the season was 2% very poor, 4% poor, 36% fair, 51% good and 7% excellent.

The first **hay condition** rating of the season was 4% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 51% good and 7% excellent. There were reports of some farmers starting their first cutting of alfalfa. **Pasture condition** rated 42% good to excellent. Rain during the week helped green up some pastures. Livestock were reported to be in good condition, especially in terms of calving.

#### Crop Condition as of May 9, 2021

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Hay, all Oats Pasture and	4 2	7 4	31 36	51 51	7 7
range	8	19	31	38	4



Crop Progress as of May 9, 2021

	Districts								State				
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	sw	sc	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)										
Corn planted	87	94	79	78	92	81	87	88	89	86	69	89	65
Corn emerged	18	27	11	17	30	22	25	19	32	22	2	29	18
Oats emerged	85	88	70	70	81	65	82	72	68	74	51	74	63
Soybeans planted	72	85	68	58	78	57	60	56	58	67	43	67	30
Soybeans emerged	5	5	4	6	10	5	9	4	9	6	0	5	2

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 9, 2021

	Districts										State		
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	
	(days)	(days)											
Days suitable	5.6	5.5	5.2	4.5	5.2	4.3	5.3	5.9	4.2	5.1	6.3	4.7	
	(percent)	(percent)											
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	22	8	3	6	10	1	3	30	8	10	17	4	
Short	39	36	27	26	29	15	28	27	7	27	38	15	
Adequate	39	56	69	67	59	75	69	42	75	61	45	78	
Surplus	0	0	1	1	2	9	0	1	10	2	0	3	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	26	11	2	21	14	3	6	23	3	13	14	2	
Short	49	49	30	49	43	27	36	44	14	39	44	8	
Adequate	25	40	67	30	41	62	58	33	75	46	42	86	
Surplus	0	0	1	0	2	8	0	0	8	2	0	4	

#### IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

## Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Reports from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 3, 2021, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 9, 2021.

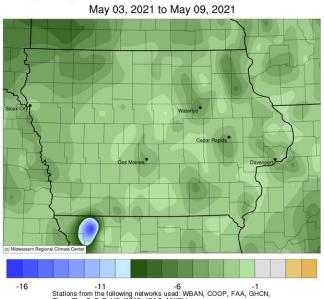
A stubborn atmospheric pattern had the jet stream dipping farther south than usual for early May, keeping cooler conditions statewide. Northwest Iowa observed negative departures over six degrees with the statewide average temperature at 51.7 degrees, 5.5 degrees below normal. After persistent dryness for the last several weeks, a more active storm track brought much-needed rain across most of Iowa with above-average totals reported in portions of western, north-central and southeastern Iowa.

Winds shifted to a southerly direction through Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup>) afternoon in advance of a low pressure system. Under mostly sunny skies, daytime highs reached into the 80s, marking the warmest day of the reporting period; the statewide average high was 82 degrees, 16 degrees above normal. The low pushed into northern Iowa overnight into Monday (3<sup>rd</sup>), firing off some stronger thunderstorms along the attendant cold front in western Iowa. Showers and thunderstorms filled in across Iowa's western half in the early morning hours before dissipating towards sunrise. As the front moved into eastern Iowa, rain reformed with locally heavier amounts from thunderstorms in southeastern Iowa. Cooler air filtered in behind the low pressure center as winds shifted out of the north under clearing skies. Morning lows reported at 7:00 am on Tuesday (4th) ranged from the upper 30s north to upper 40s south. Except for extreme northwest Iowa, measurable rain fell statewide with the highest totals found in a band from west-central to northeastern Iowa and over the southeastern corner; generally above 0.50 inch with lesser totals in between. Several stations in Harrison and Monona counties measured above two inches; a rain gauge near Cresco (Winneshiek County) collected 3.00 inches. Daytime temperatures remained in the low 60s under sunny skies. Winds died down into Wednesday (5th) morning, allowing temperatures to dip below freezing across western Iowa; conditions were warmer in eastern Iowa where low to mid 40s were observed. Cloud cover began to increase through the day as another disturbance brought light rain showers in northern and western sections of the state, though widespread totals were under a few tenths of an inch.

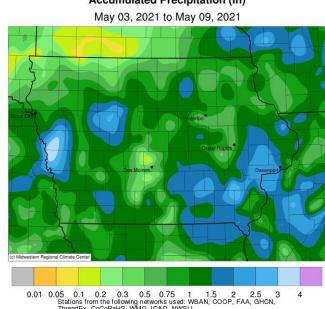
The low pressure center pushed out of eastern Iowa early Thursday (6th) with afternoon highs in the low 60s under partly cloudy skies. Winds shifted to a northerly direction from south-westerly and then to a pure easterly flow as a weak cold front dropped through Iowa early Friday (7th). As the front moved south, temperatures remained in the upper 50s north to upper 60s south as stations were still in a warmer air mass. Cloud cover began to increase as a strong low pressure system propagated towards western Iowa into Saturday (8th) with rain showers and some thunderstorms moving over the state's northern half. As the low center approached northern Missouri, a shield of moderate to heavy rain filled in across southern Iowa through the overnight hours into Sunday (9th) with 24-hour totals highest across southern sections of the state. Nearly 70 stations reported an inch or more with Washington (Washington County) measuring 2.00 inches while Columbia (Marion County) observed 2.60 inches; the statewide average rainfall was 0.88 inches with only a handful of northeastern Iowa stations reporting no rain.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.22 inch in Swea City (Kossuth County) to 4.13 inches at Little Sioux (Harrison County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.48 inches while the normal is 0.95 inch. Multiple National Weather Service co-op stations observed the week's high temperature of 87 degrees on the 2<sup>nd</sup> (reported on the 3<sup>rd</sup>), on average 21 degrees above normal. Atlantic (Cass County) and Guthrie Center (Guthrie County) reported the week's low temperature of 27 degrees on the 5th, on average 17 degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in the mid 50s north to low 50s south as of Sunday.

## Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals



## **Accumulated Precipitation (in)**



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/

Growing Degree Days can be found at https://mrcc.illinois.edu/U2U/gdd/